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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

ALFRED C. HARMER

DEC. 8, 1900–FEB. 9, 1901

PRESENTED BY
JUDGE and MRS. ISAAC R. MITT,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
-1901-

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ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

ALFRED C. HARMER

(LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM PENNSYLVANIA),

DELIVERED IN THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE,

FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS,
SECOND SESSION.

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Gift from
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Nov. 17, 1931

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page.
Proceedings in the House of Representatives	5
Address of Mr. Bingham, of Pennsylvania	10
Address of Mr. Cummings, of New York	14
Address of Mr Grosvenor, of Ohio	17
Address of Mr. Adams, of Pennsylvania	21
Address of Mr. McCleary of Minnesota	23
Address of Mr. White, of North Carolina	25
Address of Mr. McAleer, of Pennsylvania	28
Address of Mr. De Armond, of Missouri	30
Address of Mr. Otey, of Virginia	34
Address of Mr. Meyer, of Louisiana	37
Address of Mr. Morrell, of Pennsylvania	41
Address of Mr. Sibley, of Pennsylvania	46
Proceedings in the Senate	49
Address of Mr. Penrose, of Pennsylvania	55
Address of Mr. Rawlins, of Utah	61
Address of Mr. Hansbrough, of North Dakota	63
Address of Mr. Chandler, of New Hampshire	66
Address of Mr. Money, of Mississippi	72
Address of Mr. Hawley, of Connecticut	84
Address of Mr. Carter, of Montana	86

Death of Hon. Alfred C. Harmer.

Proceedings in the House.

March 7, 1900.

Mr. Bingham. Mr. Speaker, it is more than a sad duty, and certainly most painful to me, personally, to announce to the House the decease of my esteemed and loved colleague, the Hon. Alfred C. Harmer, late a member of Congress from the State of Pennsylvania.

He was recognized, as of right, "the Father of the House," by reason of long-continued service, and not only that, but was esteemed the father of the House, because of the affection and high regard that the members of this body held for him.

It is not my purpose at this time to make any extended remarks, but I would feel that I was doing far less than my affection calls for if I did not say a few words in tribute to the deceased.

Alfred C. Harmer was born in 1825 in Germantown, now a part of the city of Philadelphia. From his twenty-first year he commenced his public service as a representative of his people, and until the day of his death, with but few years of intermission, he continued their representative, either in the councils of the city, in offices of trust, or as a member of this body.

He died in the same community in which he was born and among the people who, for more than half a century, loved and honored him personally and held him in such high esteem and confidence that only death could sever their close relations.

He was one of a marked group of four men whom the city of Philadelphia sent to the American Congress, men most exceptional in their usefulness and years of service to the people of their own home constituencies, as well as to their State and the nation.

I desire, before offering the resolutions which I shall send to the Clerk's desk, to group together the names of those four members whose record to-day belongs to the whole country and for whose memory the people of Philadelphia have especial affection: Judge W. D. Kelley, who was elected to fifteen Congresses and who served twenty-nine years; Mr. Charles O'Neill, who also was elected to fifteen Congresses and served twenty-nine years; Mr. Samuel J. Randall, who was elected to fourteen Congresses and served twenty-seven years; and our colleague just deceased, Mr. A. C. HARMER, who likewise was elected to fourteen Congresses and served twenty-seven years; in all, one hundred and twelve years of service given by those four distinguished dead—a record unparalleled in the history of the country.

At a later date I shall ask the House to assign a day for memorial services in honor of our dead colleague. I offer the resolutions which I now send to the Clerk's desk.

The resolutions were read, as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, for twenty-seven years a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania, and the senior member of this House in time of continuous service.

Resolved, That a committee of fifteen members of the House, with such members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the

funeral at Philadelphia, and that the necessary expenses attending the execution of this order be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for properly carrying out the provisions of these resolutions.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

The SPEAKER announced the appointment of the following committee in pursuance of the resolutions just adopted:

Mr. Bingham, Mr. Adams, Mr. Young of Pennsylvania, Mr. McAleer, Mr. Dalzell, Mr. Brosius, Mr. Wanger, Mr. Butler, Mr. Ketcham, Mr. McCleary, Mr. Babcock, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Catchings, Mr. Terry, and Mr. Fitzgerald of Massachusetts.

Mr. BINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, as a further mark of respect to our deceased colleague, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 28 minutes p. m.), the House adjourned.

JUNE 4, 1900.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will read the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Bingham].

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That Saturday, at 1 p. m., the 8th day of December, 1900, be set apart for the purpose of paying tribute to the memory of Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Pennsylvania.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

Mr. FITZGERALD of Massachusetts. I object until the question of the right of the gentleman from New York——

The SPEAKER. That question was ruled upon twice. The motion to adjourn took precedence of the motion of the gentleman from New York. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania? The Chair hears none.

DECEMBER 8, 1900.

After the recess,

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report to the House the special order for this hour.

The Clerk read as follows:

On motion of Mr. Bingham, by unanimous consent, it was ordered that Saturday, at 1 p. m., the 8th day of December, be set apart for the purpose of paying tribute to the memory of Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Pennsylvania.

Mr. BINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I have sent to the Clerk's desk the resolutions which I desire to submit to the House.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the resolutions.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his eminent abilities as a distinguished public servant, the House, at the conclusion of these memorial proceedings, shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

Address of Mr. Bingham, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker: In this great Hall, where our late colleague and associate, Alfred C. Harmer, with rare fidelity to his public trusts, did good work, we have assembled to-day to express a loving and affectionate farewell and to pay tribute to a distinguished citizen of Pennsylvania, late a member of this body, who for years—more than a quarter of a century—held the confidence of his immediate constituency, the high esteem of associate Representatives in fourteen Congresses, and who, on the 6th day of March, 1900, after a long and painful illness, passed away to join the unreturning caravan "to where," beyond these voices, "there is rest."

He was born August 8, 1825, in Germantown, Pa., a township in the county of Philadelphia which in later years became a part of the city of Philadelphia. At an exceptionally early age—before he was 20—he began his active business career in independent enterprise, which developed in a short time into a large wholesale establishment.

In his young years—in fact, we all know, even to the days nearing his final departure—he was marked by handsome face, commanding form, and genial comradeship, always conspicuous in the gatherings of his friends and public assemblages.

At the age of 21 he was elected a director of the public schools of Germantown, and a few years later a member of the city councils of Philadelphia—most distinguished honors for a very young man. Although of the youngest, if not the youngest, of that body, by his watchful care over the interests of his people, by his sound judgment, and by his patient energy he soon associated himself with and became one of the leaders and strong men of the city legislature.

About that time Philadelphia held stock in the North Pennsylvania Railroad to the amount of $1,400,000. So great was the confidence in his integrity that he was elected three times by the councils of the city as a director to protect and watch over the interests of the city in the great corporation.

In 1860, as a candidate of the People's Party, successor to the old Whig party, he was elected recorder of deeds for the city of Philadelphia. He filled this important trust with his usual fidelity and untiring industry, while during all the years of the civil war he devoted much of his time and active energy to the cause of the Union, raising funds and equipping large numbers of soldiers in the field.

In the summer of 1870 he received the nomination of the Republican party for Congress for the Fifth Pennsylvania district, and was elected a member of the Forty-third Congress. This was the beginning of his long and useful Congressional career, exceeded in the history of this body by but few men, and identified with legislation as important as any quarter of a century's work in the history of the nation.

From 1871 until the date of his death, twenty-seven years of service, there was but one Congress for which he met defeat, and that occurred by reason of two Republicans antagonizing each other in the district. The Democratic candidate polled a larger vote than either in a district whose normal Republican majority was 7,000.

While Mr. HARMER was recognized as a Representative of positive force and accepted ability in the House, he rarely entered upon general debate or word contests upon the floor. He was one—and there are many of like character in every Congress—whose work and results aimed for were reached in the committee room, a contribution as valuable to good legislation as oratory or prepared argument. His committee

associates regarded him as a colleague always punctual, full of industry, watchful of the interests of his great State and industrial city, sound in judgment, clear in the expression of his convictions, fearless and aggressive, though most patient, and distinguished for his integrity, good purposes, zeal, and fidelity.

The records of the many Congresses in which he served as a Representative will show by his votes that at all times he exhibited good judgment, that he was true to his party convictions, and that he was always a patriot. To no division or part of his constituency did he show more faithful solicitude and devote more personal labor than to the soldiers and widows of our wars since 1861. He made their claims and privileges immediate and special. In every case he wrote an autograph letter to the claimant, with words of interest, sympathy, and hope. He pressed those cases personally and never rested until a fair and just judgment was rendered. Every soldier and soldier's widow among his people mourned for him when he died. They felt that they had lost their best friend. I trust his honorable successor will feel that in the obligations that will press upon him his richest legacy will be to take up and continue ALFRED C. HARMER'S work for the old soldiers, their widows and orphans.

He was one of a group of four men in the House, all born in the city of Philadelphia, whose combined service reached the aggregate of one hundred and twelve years, commencing in 1861 and ending in 1900, two of whom served twenty-nine years, and two of whom served twenty-seven years, with but one Congress wherein there was defeat: William D. Kelley, who served twenty-nine years continuously; Samuel J. Randall, who served twenty-seven years continuously; Charles O'Neill, who served twenty-nine years, and our lamented colleague of

this Congress, Mr. HARMER, who served twenty-seven years, each of the two latter with one Congress of defeat. All were exceptionally strong men, influential in the House, and possessing the confidence, approval, and affection of their constituents. Let their names go into the history of this House as exceptional in work well done, as well as exceptional in the great confidence of their respective constituencies.

When, with trembling hand and voice filled with serious sadness and emotion, Mr. HARMER had administered the oath of office to the Speaker of this House, on returning to his seat near the rostrum, with tears in his eyes and in faltering tones he said to me, "This closes my public life—so near the end of my life physical. My work is done, and the curtain falls."

We send greetings to-day, dear colleague and friend. The work you did for so many years was work well done. Your people loved you, and they remember you with affectionate devotion. The record of your active, earnest life will ever remain a part of your country's history.

In words eloquent and impressive the pastor of his church, concluding the funeral services at the home of our colleague, in the hearing of thousands of his friends, thus spoke:

> Lastly, I would speak of him as a believer. In youth he owned his faith in Christ, and in old age he shrank not when he came to the valley of death's shade; and after all, as he believed, death is but a shadow. He adopted Whittier's words—
>
> "On easy terms with law and fate,
> For what must be I calmly wait,
> And trust the path I can not see—
> That God is good sufficeth me."
>
> And so he passed away as one long absent from his home who hears his father's summons in a foreign land and gladly hastens to obey, in sorrow only for the friends he leaves behind. We dry our tears and give him joy. With honor's chaplet long upon his brow, he went away to change it for a crown of immortality.

The curtain falls. Farewell!

Address of Mr. Cummings, of New York.

Mr. Speaker: Far more than endearing was our departed friend to his associates. He had all the lovable qualities so characteristic of his Quaker ancestry. Indeed, the spirit of William Penn was the light of his existence. It seemed to permeate him, body and soul. His temperament was as even as the temperature of tropical seas and his disposition as genial as the breezes of summer. He gleaned his friendships silently and unconsciously. They were a part of his being, and as lasting as his soul itself. His sympathies were easily awakened and his generosity almost proverbial. With him life was a quiet stream, winding its way between the hills of adversity, rippling through the meadows of peaceful industry and strict integrity, until it reached the boundless ocean of eternity. It had no rapids, no cataracts, no great freshets. Its banks were fringed with flowers, and shaded with elms and maples. He had the spirit of a philanthropist and the serenity of a philosopher. Forty-four years had he trodden the highways of public life in the sunlight of popular favor without encountering storms and cyclones. Showers there were, but only enough to produce flowers and add zest to life. Twenty-seven of these forty-four years were spent in this House. The service was arduous and faithful, but silently and conscientiously performed.

Mr. Harmer was par excellence the silent man of the House. He never ventured into the paths of oratory, but paid the strictest attention to the wants of his constituents. His life work was performed in the privacy of the committee room rather than on the floor of the House He was a true representative of the City of Brotherly Love. He witnessed many an exciting

scene in our legislative annals, and remained a quiet spectator, guided by common sense and unruffled with anger. In his Congressional career he sat under the rulings of nine Speakers and saw eight Presidents inaugurated. It was probably the proudest moment of his life when, as Father of the House, he administered the oath to the present occupant of the chair. It was his last public duty, performed while standing on the brink of the grave. It was a striking exhibition of Philadelphia's appreciation of the services of her Congressional delegation. Three times in succession had she supplied Congress with a Father of the House. Talented William D. Kelley had been succeeded by cheery and lovable Charles O'Neill, who in his turn had given place to his estimable colleague, ALFRED C. HARMER, and now HARMER in his turn has departed, leaving the mantle with another colleague, who has served twenty-two years without a break.

But, Mr. Speaker, there was one trait about our friend, now in the unknown world, that peculiarly endeared him to every American heart. It was his unswerving devotion to his country. Placid and undisturbed he heard the fierce discussions attending the consideration of the "force bills" under the rulings of those great Speakers from Maine, Thomas B. Reed and James G. Blaine. He listened to many almost interminable tariff debates without showing the least impatience. When the very foundations of the Republic were shaken by the uproar attending the seating of Rutherford B. Hayes he remained as tranquil as an Indian summer. But his emotions were stirred to their inmost depths when war with Spain was declared and Liberty rescued Cuba from the talons of Despotism. It was a war for humanity. He recognized the spirit of the age. By vote and action he supported the war, straining every nerve toward a successful result. There was no alloy in his

patriotism. Love of country filled his heart more completely than any other emotion.

In one respect our dear friend was unique. Unlike the rest of us, he never made a speech, and, unlike many of us, he impressed himself upon the legislation of the country. His services were varied and wide in scope. Twelve years was he a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs; twelve years was he a valued worker in the Committee on the District of Columbia; four years did he serve on the Committee on Foreign Affairs; two years on Coinage, Weights, and Measures; four years on Pacific Railroads; two years on Indian Affairs, and six years was chairman of the Committee on the Library. Aside from these, he served for a score of years on numerous select and minor committees vitally affecting the interests of the country. It was while I was associated with him in the Committee on the Library that I first appreciated the extent and variety of his services to the nation. Few men have had more experience in Congressional life. It was a pleasure to sit with him in committee. The spirit of brotherly kindness was always present, and the burden of work was ever alleviated by the sunshine of his presence.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. HARMER'S love of his country was only equaled by his love for his family. A more devoted husband and a more kind and indulgent father never blessed the earth. To them his loss is irreparable. But death has discharged him from all earthly duties, and naught remains but his memory. We shall miss him; his constituents will miss him; the country will miss him. May we all meet him in the blest hereafter with a consciousness of duty as faithfully performed.

ADDRESS OF MR. GROSVENOR, OF OHIO.

Mr. SPEAKER: When it was suggested to me that upon this occasion I should address a few words of eulogy to the House upon the memory of our departed colleague, I could not refuse to comply, and yet I come with no prepared words, but only to contribute a few sentences to this occasion.

When I came to the House of Representatives, in the Forty-ninth Congress, I found General HARMER an old, experienced member, and I became acquainted with him through availing myself of his kindness, his generosity, and his great knowledge of the details of the business and affairs of Congress. I knew him intimately until the time of his death. One of the pleasantest memories of my career here will be that I had in some degree at least his confidence and enjoyed in some degree his friendship.

He had become noted for his silence before I came to Congress. If he ever made a speech in this House, he made it before I came. But he was recognized at all times as a man of thorough ability in the matter of mastering the details of legislation. At least that was true of him until the very close of his career.

In this connection I wish to deflect a moment from discussing the character of the deceased to speak of the wonderful effect that the policy of the people of Philadelphia has had upon their own interests and upon the interests of the country. The policy of sending men to Congress for long successive terms of service has been adhered to with greater tenacity in the city and county of Philadelphia than in any other locality in the United States.

I do not suppose that it will be claimed that all of the men who have represented Philadelphia here during the period covering the service of many of us were originally men of the greatest ability, although some of them were men of distinguished character when they came here, and all of them have become men of distinguished ability and character while here, so that it has come to be a fact that there is no city in the United States that has impressed its own views and interests one-half so much upon the legislation of Congress as has the city of Philadelphia. I do not know what is the occult method by which the people there ascertain in the first place the possible capacity of the men they select. But within my knowledge none of those men have failed, and it is a remarkable history, given by the gentleman from New York, that in these successive Representatives Philadelphia has had the honor to have upon the floor of this House that personage distinguished by the friendly but important and conspicuous name of "Father of the House."

At the time I came here Judge Kelley was a member of the House, rapidly going into a physical decline. He lasted, I believe, for but two Congresses after I came. Judge Kelley was a man of remarkable character and ability. I did not know him before I came to Congress, but I have doubted whether it was absolutely inferable from his characteristics that he would become the great leader of a great idea here; but he did.

And while "Charlie O'Neill," as we so fondly called him (for everybody loved him), was not a man of strikingly brilliant attainments, yet he became a man of wonderful influence here, and no man was more influential in matters pertaining to the interests of Philadelphia and of his own State than was he.

And then came General HARMER to this position. Influential he certainly was; kind and loving we always recognized him to be; distinguished by the confidence that his people had in him; and while it is not exactly the proper and necessary corollary of the few remarks which I am making, we are still satisfied that the star of ascendency in these matters of influence and good-fellowship has not set in the sky of Philadelphia's relations to the House of Representatives. It comes in large part from the character of the men that they select; it comes also from the persistent and cordial support that the people at home give to their representatives here.

I, too, witnessed the affecting scene at the opening of this House of Representatives. I did not know that General HARMER had said to others what he said to me; but after he had taken his seat at the close of the organization of the House, when he administered the oath to the Speaker, he said in just a word or two, "Good-bye, Grosvenor; you will never see me do the like of that again." It touched me as I have never been affected by the words of any member of the House; for while I had not witnessed his greatness in debate, I had recognized his influence upon the legislation of the country by his wisdom, by his faithfulness, and by his presence here when he was able to be here.

I think there can be no higher testimonial given to any man who is a member of the House of Representatives than that which was given to General HARMER by his constituency at home. I never knew the details of his political conflicts, if he had any; but I knew that for that long time he came here credentialed by the confidence, the loving confidence, of his constituents. He has gone, and has left behind him a record that ought to be studied by the people of the United States and understood by them. It is a grand commentary upon the

criticisms of public men that we hear so much about from the public press and in the public pulpit and from the public forum that a great city, sometimes criticised bitterly in the heat of political contests, has sent to this House of Representatives a column of men, a galaxy of men, such as Randall and Kelley and HARMER and O'Neill, dead; and I might add the names of those who are living. Yet, in all this period of scandal and detraction, the faithfulness, the honor, the integrity of that cluster of men has never been criticised. It goes to show that the attacks upon the public men of America—the sneers and criticisms upon public men—have in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, when applied to the Congress of the United States, been unfair and unjust. I gladly testify my fond remembrance and great appreciation of the high character and loveliness of the deceased.

ADDRESS OF MR. ADAMS, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Mr. SPEAKER: A man who for thirty long years retained the confidence of the people of his district and held the respect and affection of the members of this House needs no eulogy at the hands of any man, but so long as this honorable House deems it proper to set apart a day for memorial exercises to its deceased members, I can not refrain from laying my tribute on the bier of my late venerable colleague. ALFRED C. HARMER was no ordinary man. He belonged to that class of citizens who entered public life with the strong determination to do what was right and to represent the interests intrusted to his care with energy and fidelity. His career was not of accidental origin. He entered with a fixed purpose to succeed, and his untiring energies, supported by a fine physique, so impressed the people of Philadelphia that they not only retained his services, but rewarded his conscientious performance of his duties by continued promotion.

Mr. HARMER was first elected to the city council of Philadelphia, next as recorder of deeds, a most responsible office, having charge of all the titles to real estate of that city. He was elected to the Forty-second Congress and continually reelected up to the Fifty-sixth. During all this long period he never failed in regular attendance upon the sessions of the House, or of giving his strict attention to the questions under consideration. No constituent ever had to write him a second time to secure attention to his request, and no interview was ever denied an applicant at the Capitol or at his home. Mr. HARMER, so far as I know, never addressed the House during his long incumbency, but as a committee man, where the real

work of the session is done, he was most regular in his attendance and took an active part in formulating legislation.

His record as a legislator bears no taint. During his service Congress was besmirched with the Crédit Mobilier and star-route frauds; but no man dare associate the name of Pennsylvania's Representative with these corruptions. During his term of service he had as colleagues Thaddeus Stevens, James K. Moorhead, Edward McPherson, and our still venerable member, Galusha A. Grow; Representatives Morrill of Vermont, Dawes of Massachusetts, Logan of Illinois, Windom of Minnesota, Conkling of New York, Garfield of Ohio, and Holman of Indiana. With these men he labored for all the great acts of legislation which reconstructed our country after the rebellion and the great financial questions that preserved the monetary integrity of our Republic.

It was in his private life and actions that he gained so great a hold on his constituents. He loved to see others prosperous and happy. His generous heart had no place for enmity. He was a friend of the poor, their defender and protector, and to-day many a happy household dates its prosperity from some kind act of Mr. HARMER. His agreeable and genial manners drew around him swarms of ardent friends and admirers, adding largely to his popularity as a man of influence and as a politician. His lifelong wish was gratified. He died in harness. His last official act was to administer as Father of the House the oath of office to the new Speaker. After this he failed rapidly in health, and died leaving an example to be added to that of those distinguished sons of Pennsylvania, Kelley, Randall, and O'Neill, who, like him, had outlived all their colleagues, and left long records of usefulness and ability to their city and State.

Address of Mr. McCleary, of Minnesota.

Mr. Speaker: The man who for nearly thirty years held the confidence and affection of an intelligent Philadelphia constituency, as did General Harmer, has no need of eulogy from us.

Nevertheless, such exercises as these are eminently fitting and proper. It is well that when a man lays down the burden of great public duties that he has faithfully carried for many years in the general interest, his colleagues should suspend for a time the public service and do honor to the departed. It is due to the dead and well for the living. To the dead it is in the nature of a reward for faithful service; to the living it is an inspiration to continue "faithful to the end."

As Hawthorne teaches in his story of The Great Stone Face, we become like that which we habitually or frequently contemplate. How proper, then, that a useful and honorable life should at its close have for a time our respectful and sympathetic consideration. As Irving says: "The natural effect of sorrow over the dead is to refine and elevate the mind.

Mr. Speaker, when I first entered this body at the first session of the Fifty-third Congress, I was fortunate in being seated near General Harmer. He was early pointed out to me as one among those longest in service in the House. As such he was to us "new members" an object of interest and a subject of study.

He was so quiet and retiring that I thought for a while that he was reserved and proud. But ere long I discovered my mistake. I soon found that he was a man characterized by works rather than words, by kindly deeds rather than by protestations of regard.

I learned to go to him for counsel, and I always received it. I found him at all times gentle and generous, courtly and kindly, patient and patriotic—a man of conscience and of courage. What more can I say? What more could be said of anyone?

Those of his loved ones who are left behind are blessed by the fragrance of his memory. And they can surely find comfort in the words of Whittier—

> Life is ever Lord of Death,
> And Love can never lose its own.

ADDRESS OF MR. WHITE, OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Mr. SPEAKER: There are two periods in the life of every public man which provoke attention. If he has enemies or opponents, when he starts out in his public career, seeking high office and public trust, the worst possible phase of his character is ventilated to the world. The tongues of his maligners will run a rapid pace. The defamer of character will know no limit.

The other important period of a public man's life is when his work is done, death claims its own, and he shuffles off this mortal coil and goes hence. It is then that the virtues of the man's life are portrayed. It is then that his morals are held up in a glittering galaxy of beauty. It is pleasing to note, however, that neither one of these periods will apply to the gentleman whom we are eulogizing here to-day. His character and life were so pure, his deportment was so upright, his deeds were so honorable, that the vilest enemy, if such he had, dared not raise his voice in calumny or slander against him, even though the would-be office seeker desired the position held by ALFRED C. HARMER.

In the second period to which I have referred, it is not at all necessary for those of us who survive him on this floor to say one word in the least exaggerated term. Perhaps in all that we say we shall not be able to state the half that is due the man and the life that he led. It is true that his voice was not frequently heard, perhaps not at all, in speech making in this Hall. It is true also that a little brooklet that flows down the hillside is noisy; whether profitable or not remains for investigation. It is true that the great placid rivers of the country move with silent majesty to the bosom of the broad

ocean, bearing commerce for the utility of nations. The latter applies to Mr. HARMER. He was not noisy, but he was grand, useful, noble, in every instance, and in every purpose strictly honest.

Nations, like individuals, can never properly appreciate the services of their great men until they have been called hence never to return. Man breathes freely the pure air with which he is surrounded, and never thinks of the blessings and life-giving qualities it carries until the supply is shut off. We look as a matter of course for the cherished loved ones in our homes day after day as we return from our toil, but never realize how dear they are until there is a vacant chair at the fireside or at the table. So with nations. We are accustomed to receive the results of great men's public lives and look upon them as matters of right, never properly appreciating the true value of such individuals until we follow them for the last time to their final resting place. We have in the person of the late Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER an example in question. For over twenty-seven years his valuable counsel was unstintingly given the nation as a member of this House. No man born and reared as was Mr. HARMER, in the immediate district which he so continuously and so faithfully represented, could hold such a position for the length of time that he was here without having in him the true qualities of honesty, purity of character, faithfulness to friends, unalloying and unswerving fidelity in the discharge of every public trust placed in his hands.

One has said that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country. This adage has been reversed in the case of Mr. HARMER, for nowhere on earth was he honored and respected more than in the midst of those whom he knew longest and knew best.

I shall not attempt to deal with the inner circle of his life, except to say, in passing, that he must have been devoted to all who were near and dear to him, and loved by all who had the honor of his personal acquaintance. The nation loses perhaps one of its oldest and wisest counselors and lawmakers, his native State one of its most devoted and trusted statesmen, his district its ideal representative, and friends and acquaintances a man of honor and integrity, whose life is worthy the emulation of the young.

With him wrong was a foe; with him right was a duty. He sought to know the right, and always had the courage to do the right; and at the close of a long, eventful, and useful life he was doubtless prepared to receive the divine blessing, "Well done, good and faithful servant," and, looking across the river, to present to the great and good One who rules us all the sheaves of a long and well-spent life, and to receive the benediction of a loving Father in heaven.

Address of Mr. McAleer, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker: We have assembled to-day to express our appreciation of the life, service, and character of our late distinguished colleague, Mr. Alfred C. Harmer, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Harmer was born in Germantown, a suburb of Philadelphia, his whole life having been spent in that section. The esteem in which he was held was shown by the people among whom he cast his lot repeatedly electing him to positions of responsibility and trust previous to his election to Congress. Time after time were his services recognized, and for a period of twenty-eight years he worked with untiring zeal and an interest that never flagged, gaining, as did his illustrious colleagues, Kelley, Randall, and O'Neill, through length of service, the proud title of Father of the House.

Though not an orator, his marked ability was shown in another direction—in the committee room. There his influence, through knowledge of legislation, made itself felt and was quick to be recognized. In fact, his ability was so well known I hardly think it requires further mention, it being conceded that Mr. Harmer was one of the most faithful Representatives Pennsylvania ever sent to Congress. He commanded the respect, love, and confidence of the people—a man of magnificent presence, of scrupulous integrity, and of marked strength of mind and will, and, at the same time, of rare kindness and gentleness of manner. This same gentleness always characterized him in all his relations of life. He loved his home and family with an undying love, and often in conversation has he told me of the great interest his

beloved wife took in his work and the assistance she had given him. In the death of Mr. HARMER his city, his State, and the nation have lost a most efficient and patriotic public servant, a man whose good deeds will live long in the hearts of a grateful people. To his family we tender our sincere sympathy in their irreparable loss, and, although he has gone from us, we shall cherish his memory as that of a true and trusted friend, and look forward to that union in the great hereafter.

In the poet's words, "What a world were this—how unendurable its weight—if they whom death sundered did not meet again."

Address of Mr. De Armond, of Missouri.

Mr. Speaker: The tribute of respect which the House pays to-day to the memory of Alfred C. Harmer is more than formal. He had been here so long, he had known so many Representatives, he was known of so many, that it is but natural and proper, now that he has gone, that some should speak feelingly and sincerely of his virtues and his services.

How long he was here, how many he knew, of how much of the history of our country were he and his performances a part! How many great men came here and went hence in the long time from his entrance to his departure! How many stirring scenes did he witness here! And while a quiet man himself, in his own way and effectively he had his part in all of them. As remarked by one of his colleagues and by the eloquent gentleman from New York [Mr. Cummings], he was not a maker of speeches; he was a performer of deeds. He worked and did not talk.

Mr. Speaker, no one remembers General Harmer except in a kindly way. His course of conduct and his service in the House of Representatives produced none of the heart-burnings or annoyances or wounds that so frequently come to us in our public service here. He did nothing to hurt or offend anyone. Believing in transacting the business intrusted to him by his people and by his country quietly and plainly upon the floor and in committee, rather than by engaging in the gladiatorial contests of debaters in the House, in all his long career he escaped the antagonisms, the discomfitures, and the hard feelings which come to so many members who pursue a different course. He went through the many phases

of the warfare upon the floor of the House without encountering the obstacles which many others meet, and came from every engagement scathless and serene. He dealt no blows; he fostered no animosities; he received no hurts, for he gave none, and succeeded in securing, as he merited, the good will and affection of his associates here. A pleasant career and a satisfactory one, Mr. Speaker, must we pronounce that of our lamented friend, when we take into consideration all the circumstances connected with his life and service.

That he accomplished much of benefit to his people I have not the slightest doubt. The continued confidence of his constituents, and their love for him; his election time and time again, for fourteen successive terms to this body—how complimentary, how honorable it all appears! Though elected from the same territory, in the main, he was not so often elected by the same constituency—the sons followed the fathers in doing him honor. The unshaken confidence of two generations of electors is a noble tribute to his worth and fitness for the place; to his steadfastness, his truth, and his fidelity. His people were true to him to the end of life, because to life's end he was true to them.

The opinion prevails in many quarters that the public is disposed to be harsh and unjust in its criticisms and judgment of the public services rendered by those elected to public office, and in its treatment of public servants. I am of the opinion, Mr. Speaker, that the reverse of that is absolutely true. It seems to me that the great body politic is kind, charitable, and patient in dealing with those occupying positions of trust and responsibility where there is good reason to believe that they are entitled to favorable consideration. When the public finds a man to be faithful—one who can be depended upon in emergencies, who can be trusted in public

life—there is a tendency on the part of the public to continue his incumbency; and it is not singular that sometimes, as in the case of General HARMER, there should grow up in the public mind a strong affection for him and a generous disposition to continue his services as long as possible.

The career of our deceased colleague is an evidence of the truth of the statement I have just made. His service in the House of Representatives affords a most striking illustration of the fact I have suggested. In the beginning of his official career, men of his age and generation elected him to the responsible position then intrusted to him. They continued to do so as they grew older, and, when they passed away from the scene of action, their sons and grandsons, who had grown to appreciate his services, recognized his worth and his character and emulated their fathers in sending him again and again to Congress, supporting their fathers' friend faithfully until he was gathered to his own fathers, at the end of a long career of honorable and useful public service.

Many men occupying positions in public life, who must at stated periods go before the people for their support and reelection, are forced into aggressiveness; they must give and take blows in the open arena, and often go down in the storm of political battle. Many of them must retire wounded in the fray. But the steady support of the constituents of our deceased friend, their trust in him, and his long and efficient career here, accomplished silently, kindly, sweetly, constitute a double tribute—a tribute to them, a tribute to him.

He was the Father of the House—the third Father of the House from the same city of Philadelphia. In speaking to his memory I express the hope of all, I think, that the succeeding Father of the House, also from that great city, the courteous gentleman who first addressed the House upon this occasion,

may long be spared to render service to his people and to his country.

Mr. Speaker, as we pause to-day to pay our tribute of respect to the friend that is gone, there come to us sentiments and feelings beyond our power to express or control. How little life is, after all! There comes to us the full appreciation of the fact that in this arena, as in all the battle of life, we must encounter obstacles on every hand whenever we strive to accomplish anything. We appreciate more clearly the fact that there are many shortcomings, many vain endeavors, many mistakes in the short period allotted to us for the performance of life's duties; and then comes the end for each of us, in turn, of all things temporal, and then the limitless future of another life or the unending doom of nothingness—extinction. Into the future none can peer save with the eye of faith. Of the myriads gone hence we have no tidings from mortal lips. They are in that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns.

Our friend performed well his allotted tasks here. He was gentleness, modesty, and kindness personified. Having lived graciously, honestly, gently, and kindly, he entered the portals of the unknown country without doubt and without fear; and we who remain behind fondly cherish his memory, and kindly, lovingly, trustfully hope that in a higher and better existence his noble spirit may expand and triumph in achievements far beyond the reach of mortals in this mortal existence.

Address of Mr. Otey, of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker: Alfred C. Harmer is gone to us, it is true; but in the light we can not see, he lives the life that never dies.

Seldom is it that any legislative body mourns the loss of one so mature in its service, so useful in its labors, so fearless amid its turmoils, so gentle and kind amid its discords; seldom one with a record so spotless, a character so pure, an experience so ripe, one so generally known, respected, and beloved; seldom, too, one whose public career was so extended, and whose presence produced such fragrance, whose absence created such void.

My remembrance of him was first as the "Father of the House," standing alone before the first Speaker under whom it was my privilege to serve in this body, as he swore in that exalted officer, in the discharge of which duty his gentleness of manner gave assurance of a "kindlier half to the human heart which kindly deeds might reach."

My last remembrance of him was as he presided over a committee of this body of which I was an humble member, impressing me that his influence was like a gentle tide, making life more pure as it lifted the soul above the sordid problems of life.

My acquaintance with him was incidental; by no means intimate; and far be it from me to attempt any portrayal of his life and character. I knew him only to discern that the life of such a man made life worth living and that the world was better for his having lived. He was embalmed in the innermost shrines of the hearts of those who knew him best, and the honors crowded on him were purchased only with merit. His position, whether high or low, was ever dignified by his good deeds and graced by the fruit of his virtues. As I saw him, and as I knew him, his life reflected the tints of heaven's own

light, being clothed in the pure white garment of truth, that effluence of the divine ray which shed light on the paths he pursued.

His great heart was like an exhaustless urn, pouring forth never-ending love, flooding his long and useful days as they rolled nearer and nearer to shine in the beyond.

He was possessed of a governed mind, which had no thought but good, and his self-restraint flowed clear in the tide, widening the waves of peace, good will, and truth.

He was no flatterer, and as an honest man despised the slime of insincerity.

> He would not flatter Neptune for his trident,
> Or Jove for 's power to thunder.

Silent in his own praise, he gave freely to others just merit and took none from them that was their own.

His courteous demeanor and gentlemanly bearing paralyzed malice and disarmed resentment.

His wisdom saw and seized right, which knowledge ofttimes feared to own.

Wise in counsel, modest in manner, constant in principle, impartial in method, he was just in judgment. He governed his lips as palace doors, and pure and polished were the words that passed their portals.

The lesson of his life taught that here all was naught, and that though we weep with those who weep, yet it is not the room we love, but the inmate; not the broken shell, but the pearl within. The daily walk of ALFRED C. HARMER absolved a fault and helped a virtue grow. He dared the rugged road of right, and while pursuing perilous paths he lived to find easier ascent and lighter loads till he reached the twin sister peaks of Life and Death, around whose chilling snows the gilded clouds were painted in the warmer colors of love.

The cares of anxious days are past to him; and his sun sank slowly as each parting ray gleamed through the clouds of silent sadness, and he dreamed undreamed the tale untold and reached the day that knew only eternal noon.

We are here to drop a tear and to embalm his memory with our love; to plant a flower in his honor whose fragrance may reach those who were so near and dear to him. I say to them, "ALFRED C. HARMER, whom you call dead, sleeps well, and lives and loves you."

ADDRESS OF MR. MEYER, OF LOUISIANA.

Mr. SPEAKER: I rise for the purpose of joining in the tribute so well and fitly rendered by others to the memory of the late ALFRED C. HARMER, of Pennsylvania. I have known him well during ten years of mutual association as a member of this body, and to know Mr. HARMER well was to hold him in esteem and respect.

Mr. HARMER'S term of service began on the 4th of March, 1871, long before I entered this body. With the exception of the Forty-fourth Congress, Mr. HARMER steadily represented the great State of Pennsylvania, and especially the city of Philadelphia, of which he was a citizen. It is no common honor to be thus chosen to represent a city which in the infancy of our Republic was its national capital, the city where the Continental Congress first met, where our Independence was proclaimed, and where our Federal Constitution was framed by the patriots of 1789. This high honor was enhanced by the growth of this city in population, wealth, educational institutions, commerce, and the arts which have contributed so greatly to our national development. That in a city so important and so fertile in men of talent and force Mr. HARMER should be chosen and so long retained in the public service as he was, is a fact that is more impressive than a costly monument would be, or any words of eulogy that I could utter.

Nothing less than high qualities of personal integrity, fidelity, and business efficiency could have gained for him such a steady and unwavering support from those who knew him best and were most competent to estimate his value.

It is creditable to the city of Philadelphia that, probably more than any other great center of population, she has shown a marked disposition to retain in her service in this Hall Representatives of tried efficiency and fidelity. It is a striking proof of what I say that two of her Representatives have been lately known successively as the "Father of the House," a term given to the oldest member in continuous service. I am free to say that in setting this honorable example this great city has sacrificed none of her important interests in our legislation, but has, on the contrary, promoted those interests and also the interests and influence of the whole Commonwealth to which they belong.

The year 1871, when Mr. HARMER entered the House of Representatives, was an important period in our history. Among his associates on the State delegation was the Hon. William D. Kelley, a gentleman of uncommon industry, ability, and influence; Mr. Leonard Myers, of Philadelphia, who also rendered long and efficient service; and that grand patriot and statesman, Samuel J. Randall. All these have passed away except Mr. Myers. In the same House we find the honored names of James G. Blaine, Michael C. Kerr, George W. McCrary, James B. Beck, William P. Frye, Eugene Hale, Henry L. Dawes, Samuel S. Cox, James A. Garfield, Charles Foster, Luke P. Poland, and Jeremiah M. Rusk—all active and forceful men in those stirring times. Only two or three of these illustrious men survive, and to speak of them all now is to recall a past generation. Between that and the present epoch Mr. HARMER was, up to the other day, a connecting link.

Mr. HARMER was not a lawyer by profession, nor did he possess special oratorical gifts. He was a merchant and a business man, and as such amply qualified to represent a great

commercial and manufacturing center. He was here in a period of unusual party and sectional bitterness; but, while a strong party man, he was personally devoid of acrimony, and he aroused no animosities. In this way, following the natural bent of a kindly, fair, and just disposition, he was able to secure an appreciative consideration for the business interests which he undertook to champion. I think that I may freely assert that he never made an enemy on either side of this House, and that he enjoyed an uncommon measure of its good will and confidence. There was no one whom he could not freely approach in matters of public business, and no one to whom he in turn would have refused a fair hearing and just consideration. His industry, punctuality, and attention to his duties were not confined to his own city and State. They embraced the Union and every part of it.

In a period of party strife and undue acrimony in debate, and probably an over-tendency to personal conflicts and imputations, I consider it a fortunate thing for the House to possess a body of members, like Mr. HARMER, whose moderation, good sense, and modesty serve to compose strife and pave the road for judicious and patriotic determinations. The sensible and fair member of this House, wherever he may sit, is as apt to wield a good and great influence as the man who exceeds him in oratory.

It is well known here that a very large part of the most effective and valuable work of a member consists in committee work, either as a member of a committee or in presenting to other committees matters specially affecting the Representative's constituents. This service is rarely ostentatious, but it is often laborious, and requires industry, order, tact, and personal influence in order to accomplish the best results. During the last ten years General HARMER has served upon the Committees

upon Indian Affairs, Naval Affairs, Foreign Affairs, the Library, and the District of Columbia. All these were very important committees. The last two were those on which General HARMER last served, and of late years their duties have become much more varied and difficult. Congress is, in fact, the government of this District. This community is entitled to fair and generous treatment, and the city of Washington has always received it at the hands of our deceased associate.

General HARMER never neglected his public work, but he was of a marked social turn. He enjoyed the society of his family and his friends. In his later life he spent many of his summer hours at Brigantine Beach, a place on the New Jersey coast that he was instrumental in developing and building up, and where he enjoyed in a quiet, simple way the outdoor life and relaxation in which he was to all a most agreeable, cheerful, and hospitable companion.

In this brief and hasty sketch I have endeavored to portray the public life of one who for many years pursued the path of steady and unostentatious duty in this Hall. His memory will abide with us and will be remembered by those of us who were his fellow-members with the affection and respect due to his many virtues, his unvarying courtesy and kindness, and the personal worth which characterized him both in private and public life. He has left us forever, it is true, but he has left us nothing to forgive, nothing that we could wish to forget, nothing in which his State, his constituents, and family may not take a just and honorable pride. He was fit to represent a great Commonwealth such as that which honored and trusted him to his latest hours on earth.

Address of Mr. Morrell, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker: I feel sure that the members present who have come to honor the memory of their departed brother and friend, the late Hon. Alfred C. Harmer, will accord to me some degree of indulgence, realizing as they must the ordeal through which I have been compelled to pass; first, in presenting myself to the voters of the Fifth Pennsylvania Congressional district as a successor to a man held in the esteem in which they held the late Hon. A. C. Harmer, and, having been elected, in presenting myself to be sworn in at the bar of this House as the substitute in this honorable body of a man who had won so many friends through the love of which he inspired during the many years he was a member of this House by his sincerity of purpose and faithful discharge of duty. As they loved him, so, I trust, they will deal gently with my shortcomings.

The late Hon. Alfred C. Harmer belonged to a group of statesmen coming from the great Keystone State, Pennsylvania, whose record for length of service and services performed can not be equaled by any State in the Union. I refer to the Hon. William D. Kelley and the Hon. Charles O'Neill, who each served fifteen terms in Congress; to the Hon. Samuel J. Randall, and to our late lamented friend, who each served fourteen terms in Congress, and to the Hon. Galusha A. Grow and the Hon. H. H. Bingham, who, thank God, are here with us, strong in health and strong in their usefulness in the councils of this body.

It has been well said that it is not greatness simply to have held important trusts; greatness lies in the faithful performance of all duties committed to us. That man is not

truly great who does not display homely, honest nobility in the small affairs of life in his daily intercourse with his fellow-man.

The great State of Pennsylvania, greatest in the Union in its history and resources, found in him a son well adapted to fill the measure of a representative of all the varied elements of her greatness and power.

The distinguished services of the late Hon. A. C. HARMER on the important committees of this House, which number among their members so many efficient men, are sufficient to stamp him as a man far above ordinary attainments and ability. He may not have possessed to the same degree as some others the ability to dazzle the public with bursts of oratory, sallies of wit, or biting sarcasm; but in soundness of judgment, and in thorough grasp of the subjects of legislation, and in patient and conscientious discharge of duty, he stands, and deserves to stand, in the foremost rank. A career so long and so useful in the councils of the nation is a monument to his integrity as a man and to his ability as a statesman.

The personality of the late Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, not only in his own district, but wherever he chanced to go, won for him friends. His kindly bearing and nobility of character were speedily recognized by all with whom he came into intimate contact. To say that he was beloved by all who knew him is but to feebly express the feelings that were entertained toward him.

In his last years of service he was known as the "Father of the House." He was indeed a father to his constituents in the best sense of the word, for it was his constant aim to care for the fatherless children and widows and all who were desolate and oppressed. He was not a politician in the general acceptance of the term; he never posed as such before either

his constituents or this body, of which he was a member for so many years. Just as his path was straight, so were his doings as bright as the noonday sun. Elected by the people, he was of the people and for the people, and his name in his own district was a household word. To one class above all others was he especially a friend. I refer to the old soldier, his widow and orphan. None of those, or none of those that belonged to them, ever appealed to the late Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER in vain.

Above all else on this earth, the Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER loved his home. There it was he found his greatest happiness. Can it, then, be wondered that the loss to his widow and children is what it is? We can extend to them sympathy, but only time and that God who is the father of the widow and the fatherless can succeed in His bountiful mercy in assuaging the irreparable loss. It was they who realized the sacrifices made, the truth of the statement, "Greater love hath no man than this: that he lay down his life for his friend."

So it was that when the death of this statesman and friend became known it was a sorrow that touched all classes and conditions of men; and not the men only, but the women and the children joined with their husbands and fathers in an expression of the loss they had sustained, which lamentation was as sincere as it was outspoken, for "Out of the fullness of the heart the mouth speaketh."

As I said on a late occasion in Philadelphia, in visiting the different portions of the Fifth Pennsylvania district which my campaign necessitated, I was often touched beyond measure and at the same time brought to realize most forcibly the largeness of the place which I was endeavoring to fill. While of course generalities were always indulged in regarding the

capabilities and kindliness of the late Hon. A. C. HARMER, yet here and there this man or that man, perhaps the humblest in the assemblage, would take me aside and say, "Do for us as AL. HARMER did and you will be all right; do not forget us people." In fact it reminded me of being called home on the occasion of the sudden death of a near friend or relative. Upon opening the front door one perhaps sees the familiar hat or coat still hanging on the rack, and turning aside into room after room first one familar object and then another greets one. In this room perhaps a book open at some favorite passage; in another a bunch of flowers of the variety especially loved, or some pictures on the wall representing the favorite sport or pastime, and so on until is reached the room familiarly called "the study." There is the writing table, there are books spread out and arranged, the letter half written, the ink scarcely dry on the pen, and there the easy-chair in front of the fire, in which at times a few minutes would be snatched from labor.

And so it was as I journeyed through the Fifth Pennsylvania district. Everywhere there was something to remind me of the late Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER. And just as I likened the club bearing his name to the easy chair before the fire, so I might liken his life here to the writing table heaped up on the one side with documents framed for the benefit of the people of the country and his district, on the other side with documents acknowledging services rendered.

His last official act in this House was to administer the oath of office to the present Speaker, the Hon. David B. Henderson, a duty which he performed when scarcely able to make his way to the desk and raise his arm. Performing this duty, as he did, contrary to the advice of his physician, it might be said that he was "faithful unto death." What a glorious

career, what an ending to a long life—one to be envied by the rich or the poor. At the last moment we find him, having completed his threescore years, full of honors, mourned by all who knew him. Can we not, therefore, feel confident that the same voice which brought him the last summons went on to say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Address of Mr. Sibley, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker: It is indeed a privilege to join with my fellow-members in offering tributes to the memory of Alfred C. Harmer. He was not alone an honor to our Commonwealth and our country, but an honor as well to the whole brotherhood of man.

In the Fifty-third Congress, through my close personal relations with the Hon. W. H. Hatch, of Missouri, I came to know and enjoy those traits of character which endeared Mr. Harmer to his associates. Alfred C. Harmer and W. H. Hatch were conspicuous for their loyalty to party principles, the one a Republican and the other a Democrat, and yet between them there existed a friendship such as is too rarely found among men. They were as Jonathan and David in their union.

Never had I known two men in many points of resemblance so much alike, both giants physically and richly endowed mentally; but, beyond all else, endowed with large, warm hearts and clear moral perceptions. Personally they feared nothing in this world except to do a mean action. In battle fearless, bold, and rugged, always ready for the rough encounters of daily life, and yet to the last preserving those kindly instincts and human sympathies which were as easily awakened as those of the gentlest woman, producing such characters through the blending of loftiness and simplicity as we by common consent ascribe to those knights of old who graced the round table of King Arthur. Mr. Hatch, in the absence of Mr. Harmer, has talked to me for hours about his friend Harmer and his rare virtues, and, as a mutual friend of both, Harmer would tell me how the world was blessed by a man like Hatch.

Mr. Speaker, from this mundane sphere of activity both have passed to that higher sphere, to that truer, better life, where we may fondly trust the union between such friends is now complete and abiding. In these few words I join again these friends, for together I learned to know, respect, and love them. What new member of Congress that was not indebted to them for kindly words of counsel and for kindly acts performed? They lived not to themselves alone, but they lived for others; and many lives were brighter, many homes and hearts were blessed, because of the lofty purposes, the noble impulses of these two men.

ALFRED C. HARMER died the "Father of the House." W. H. Hatch died a private citizen, after conspicuous public service of many years. No eulogies upon Mr. Hatch have, consequently, been presented in this Chamber, but on this occasion I trust it is not amiss to thus refer to one of Mr. HARMER'S friends and colleagues who first gave me to know the grand traits of character of ALFRED C. HARMER, who, through an innate modesty and natural reserve, did not reveal altogether to the casual observer his strength, his nobility, and his real worth as a private citizen and a legislator.

The memory of ALFRED C. HARMER will forever be cherished by those who, like us, have had the opportunity to know his real value to his friends, his Commonwealth, and his country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Lovering). As a further mark of respect, and in accordance with the resolution previously adopted, the House now stands adjourned until 12 o'clock on Monday next.

And accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 25 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned.

FEBRUARY 11, 1901.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

The committee informally rose.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Cunningham, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the business of the Senate be now suspended in order that fitting tribute be paid to his memory.

Resolved, That as an additional mark of respect the Senate, at the conclusion of these ceremonies, do adjourn.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

MARCH 7, 1900.

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. W. J. Browning, its Chief Clerk, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

The message also announced the appointment by the Speaker of the House of Representatives of a committee on the part of the House to take charge of the funeral arrangements.

Mr. PENROSE. I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the resolutions which have just been received from the House of Representatives.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair lays before the Senate the resolutions from the House of Representatives, which will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *March 7, 1900.*

Resolved, That the House has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, for twenty-seven years a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania, and the senior member of this House in time of continuous service.

Resolved, That a committee of fifteen members of the House, with such members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral at Philadelphia, Pa., and that the necessary expenses attending the execution of this order be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for properly carrying out the provisions of this resolution.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The Speaker announced the appointment of Mr. Bingham, Mr. Adams,

Mr. Young of Pennsylvania, Mr. McAleer, Mr. Dalzell, Mr. Wanger, Mr. Brosius, Mr. Butler, Mr. McCleary, Mr. Ketcham, Mr. Babcock, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Catchings, Mr. Terry, and Mr. Fitzgerald of Massachusetts as members of said committee on the part of the House.

Mr. PENROSE. Mr. President, in consequence of the announcement which has just been made of the action of the House of Representatives upon the death of my late colleague in that body, Mr. HARMER, I submit the resolutions which I send to the desk, and ask unanimous consent for their immediate consideration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania submits resolutions which will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with deep sensibility the announcement of the death of Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a committee of five Senators be appointed by the President pro tempore to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to take order for superintending the funeral of the deceased.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the second resolution the Chair appoints as the committee on the part of the Senate Mr. Penrose, Mr. Mason, Mr. Hansbrough, Mr. Sullivan, and Mr. Scott.

Mr. PENROSE. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of my deceased colleague in the House of Representatives, I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 3 o'clock and 48 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Thursday, March 8, 1900, at 12 o'clock m.

DECEMBER 10, 1900.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. H. L. Overstreet, one of its clerks, announced that the House had passed resolutions commemorative of the life and public services of Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

JANUARY 29, 1901.

Mr. PENROSE. Mr. President, I wish to give notice that on Saturday, the 9th of February, I will call up the resolution of the House of Representatives announcing the death of my late colleague in the House, Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, and will ask the Senate to suspend its proceedings in order that fitting tribute may be paid to his memory.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES.

FEBRUARY 9, 1901.

Mr. PENROSE. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the resolutions of the House of Representatives relative to the death of the Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Gallinger in the chair). The Chair lays before the Senate the resolutions indicated by the Senator from Pennsylvania, which will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

December 8, 1900.

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his eminent abilities as a distinguished public servant, the House, at the conclusion of these memorial proceedings, shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

Mr. PENROSE. Mr. President, I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania submits resolutions, which will be read.

The Secretary read as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. ALFRED C. HARMER, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the business of the Senate be now suspended, in order that fitting tribute be paid to his memory.

Resolved, That as an additional mark of respect the Senate, at the conclusion of these ceremonies, do adjourn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions offered by the Senator from Pennsylvania.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

ADDRESS OF MR. PENROSE, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Upon these resolutions I desire to address a few remarks to the Senate.

ALFRED C. HARMER was born August 8, 1825, in Germantown, then a township in the county of Philadelphia, now a part of the city of Philadelphia. He was educated in the public schools and at the Germantown Academy. He began his business training early in life, and before he was 20 years old was engaged in business for himself. In a few years he had established himself at the head of a large shoe-manufacturing concern. In his twenty-first year he was elected a director of the public schools of Germantown. Subsequently, the township of Germantown having become incorporated as a borough, he was chosen by popular vote a member of the new town council.

In 1855 the city and county of Philadelphia were consolidated, and in 1856 Mr. HARMER was elected to represent the Twenty-second Ward, which included the place of his birth, in the popular branch of the city councils. Under the act of consolidation many new and important questions arose concerning the municipal government. To the consideration of these questions he brought his quick powers of observation, sound judgment, patient energy, and native tact and aptitude for business affairs. He was soon recognized by his associates in city councils as one of the strong men of the body and as an able advocate and faithful defender of the general public interests of the rapidly growing city. As a member of councils he took a deep interest in the local railway system of the city, and served three years as president of one of the street roads—the Thirteenth and Fifteenth Streets Railway Company. The city of

Philadelphia at that time held an interest of $1,400,000 in the stock of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, and Mr. HARMER was three times elected by the two branches of the city councils as a director of the company to represent the investment on the part of the city.

In 1860 Mr. HARMER was nominated for the office of recorder of deeds for the city of Philadelphia by the People's party, which was the successor of the old Whig party. The period was one of great political excitement. Two other tickets were in the field, nominated by the Democratic party and the Native American party. After a spirited campaign Mr. HARMER was elected by a majority of 2,783 votes over both competitors, although the Democratic candidate for governor carried the city by a majority of 1,886. About the same time he was appointed by the citizens' committee to collect funds in the Twenty-second Ward for raising troops, to which fund he contributed largely himself. He was a delegate in the same year to the national Republican convention in Chicago. He fulfilled the duties of the office of recorder with ability, and during the same period, the war being in active progress, he devoted much of his time and energy to equipping and placing soldiers in the field.

In 1870 Mr. HARMER was elected to the Forty-third Congress by a large majority to represent the Fifth district of Pennsylvania, comprising at that time Bucks County and three wards of the city of Philadelphia. He entered upon his long public career with the equipment derived from a considerable experience in public affairs. He continued in Congress from 1870 to the day of his death, in March, 1900, with the single exception of the Forty-fourth Congress. His failure to be returned to the Forty-fourth Congress was the result of an accident. An apportionment of the Congressional districts of Pennsylvania

had just been made by the legislature. Certain wards were taken from the Third Congressional district, then represented by Hon. Leonard Myers, and added to the Fifth district, represented by Mr. HARMER, thus placing both Mr. HARMER and Mr. Myers in the same district. In the convention the delegates were evenly divided between Mr. HARMER and Mr. Myers. Neither would yield, and so both were named in the same hall as the regular nominees. The result was that the Democratic candidate was elected in the district.

During the long period of his Congressional services, covering thirty years of the most important legislative history of the country, Mr. HARMER took an active interest in all measures brought before Congress. For many years he was a member of the Naval Committee, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on the Library. He devoted his entire time unselfishly to all matters of a public nature, and served with rare zeal and fidelity the personal interests of his constituents.

The district represented by Mr. HARMER at the time of his death contained a population of 334,531. In the district are many great and varied industrial concerns and a thrifty, intelligent, industrious, and prosperous people.

Philadelphia has been frequently called the "City of Homes." The number of individual houses in Philadelphia is about equal to the number of registered voters, indicating that each voter lives in his own home or under conditions approximating thereto. Probably no great city in the world possesses such a general industrial prosperity and such individual well-being, independence, and intelligence. A sentiment of stalwart American patriotism is preeminent among the citizens of the birthplace of American liberty. Mr. HARMER'S district possessed these characteristics to a preeminent degree. This splendid district continued to return Mr. HARMER for a

period which renders his Congressional service exceptional in the history of the country.

The history of the representation of the city of Philadelphia in the House of Representatives is remarkable. Mr. HARMER was one of a group of four men in the House, all born in the city of Philadelphia, whose combined service reached the aggregate of one hundred and twelve years, commencing in 1861 and ending in 1900. William D. Kelley served twenty-nine years continuously; Samuel J. Randall served twenty-seven years continuously; Charles O'Neill served twenty-nine years, and Mr. HARMER twenty-seven years, each of the two latter having suffered defeat for one Congress. All were exceptionally strong men. William D. Kelley had a national reputation in connection with tariff legislation. Samuel J. Randall was respected by the people of Philadelphia regardless of party. It is probable that at some times he could have been elected to Congress from any district in Philadelphia. Great efforts were made by the business and industrial interests of Pennsylvania to retain him in Congress, and for many years the legislature of the State preserved his district as he desired it, so that his continued return to Congress might not be imperiled.

Charles O'Neill was preeminently a useful Representative of his district. Mr. HARMER did not excel in those parts which catch the public eye. He was not an orator in the common acceptation of the word, but the records of the many Congresses in which he served as a Representative will show that by his votes he at all times exhibited good judgment, was true to his party convictions, and he was always patriotic. Another Representative, the Hon. Henry H. Bingham, fortunately for Philadelphia and Pennsylvania still active and energetic in the discharge of his Congressional duties, should

be counted in the group to which I have referred. He was elected to the Forty-sixth Congress in 1878. He has served continuously ever since, for a period of twenty-two years, and succeeds Mr. HARMER to the titular position popularly known as "Father of the House." Kelley, O'Neill, HARMER, and Bingham, all from Philadelphia, have in succession achieved this distinction.

Mr. Bingham speaks of his late colleague as follows:

"To no division or part of his constituency did he show more faith and solicitude and devote more personal labor than to the soldiers and sailors of our wars since 1861. He made their claims and privileges immediate and special. In every case he wrote an autograph letter to the claimant, with words of interest, sympathy, and hope. He pressed those cases personally, and never rested until a fair and just judgment was rendered. Every soldier and soldier's widow among his people mourned for him when he died. They felt that they had lost their best friend."

The pastor of his church at the funeral service in eloquent words, in the presence of large numbers of his constituents, said:

"I would speak of him as a citizen, a faithful steward of the State. He was fortunate in that for thirty years, with only one brief interval, he represented his district in the House of Representatives, and his constituents were fortunate in having such a man to represent them. Without arts that attract the attention of the nation, he had those gifts that are worth more—lucid thought, persistent application, and unwavering fidelity to what he counted duty.

"I would speak of him as one whose life was sweet, with kindly words, friendly smiles, and generous deeds."

The public career of Mr. HARMER extended over a period of

nearly forty-four years—from the time he was elected a school director until the time of his death. His career was long, useful, honorable, and distinguished. He had more than filled out the allotted span of human life. We resign ourselves to the fact of death, under these circumstances, as coming in the inevitable course of nature. We suspend the proceedings of the Senate that we may pay our tribute of esteem and regard for the memory of our late colleague, and we extend to his widow and her children, to whom he has left the priceless legacy of an honorable and distinguished name, our profound sympathy in their bereavement.

Address of Mr. Rawlins, of Utah.

Mr. President: Already we have heard a full and clear statement as to the career of the deceased. I first met Mr. Alfred C. Harmer while serving as a Delegate in the Fifty-third Congress. Mr. Harmer spent his life in the public service. For more than a generation prior to that time he had been a member of the House of Representatives. He had occupied many places of trust and responsibility.

As I remember Mr. Harmer, he did not indulge in any of the ostentations of public life. He was a silent man. Yet he was entirely sincere and faithfully devoted his energies and his abilities to the service of his constituents and his country. His warm heart, genial spirit, and devotion to duty secured for him, undoubtedly, the continued and loyal support of his people. Quietly and in his own way he did his part; his constituents knew it, and were satisfied. It is no light task, indeed it requires the keenest insight into human nature, much wisdom, and steady perseverance, to retain so long the unvarying esteem of the multitude. To him this trait must have been natural, and it seemed not to be difficult.

When we reflect that for more than a quarter of a century, in all the vicissitudes of public fashion and changing circumstance, one man could retain so long the confidence of the people and maintain his position in public life without diminution, it certainly indicates something in the character and wisdom and usefulness of the man which it is difficult fully to appreciate and estimate.

Mr. Harmer had as his associates during the period of his service in the House very many distinguished men. All

of them, so far as I am able to judge from my brief experience in that body, held him in high esteem. He was fully trusted. He was at all times respected. He afterwards became the father of the House, and not only by the length of his service there, but also in the qualities inspiring respect which he possessed, merited that name. I cheerfully, although my acquaintance with him was limited, say these few and imperfect words out of respect to his memory. His loss undoubtedly will be very keenly felt, not only by his constituents, but by those with whom he was associated in the other branch of the National Legislature.

Address of Mr. Hansbrough, of North Dakota.

Mr. President: I knew the late Alfred C. Harmer as a public man only; but if the qualities he possessed in this capacity may be taken as an index of his private career, there can be no doubt about his worth to the times in which he lived. It is related that during his thirty years of service in the other body he never made a speech. Whether that be strictly true or not, his well-known silence should not and will not be laid up against the vast amount of good he accomplished as a member of the important committees with which he was prominently identified. I had the honor to serve with Mr. Harmer for a number of years on the Joint Committee on the Library, and it was here that I learned to admire and to love him. He was a courtly gentleman, endowed with a strong sense of justice and noted for his extreme caution. In the consideration of the measures which came to that committee, if he was in doubt, he would invariably advise delay, the result being that the bill or resolution, when it did receive his approval, bore those marks of perfection so much desired by those who aim to lay the sure foundation of enduring law.

Another characteristic of our departed friend was the exact consideration with which he met and dealt with his fellowmen, the high regard he had for their rights, and the patience with which he sought and weighed their opinions.

Mr. President, it is not for mortal man to peer with absolute certainty into the great beyond. We can only speculate as to the future. The mystery of death has baffled the centuries, and it seems to have been decreed that we may only hope.

That erratic chanter of impromptu measures, Walt Whitman, has said, "It is as great a marvel to be born as to die;" and yet since these events are of daily occurrence, we have come to regard them more or less stoically. Beyond the joy in the family circle incident to a new human arrival the great world is unmoved. Because we do not recognize the genius of the man while he is yet in the cradle there lies a veil of mystery over the daily life of the world which lends an alluring glamour to the commonest existence.

Our neighbor is a good citizen, a kind husband, and an indulgent father. We see him each day and are inclined, perhaps, to criticise his lack of philosophy when he misses the street car. Alas, one day, which has been just like any other day to us, it is reported that he is ill, and we are moved to grant him one moment's sympathetic thought. A mutual friend mentions him with affection, and another recounts some sacrifice, some patient, noble deed of heroism. It is then that his real worth is revealed and recognized, and he is at once transformed to a new and higher estimation—our neighbor is a hero. And when he has passed away there is a clamor of plaudits and eulogistic tongues that must have been wholly lost while he lived. Our neighbor was in truth a great man. We shall hear nothing now of his lack of philosophy, but only of those things which rightfully contribute to his renown. Thus, in the hearts and consciences of the living are erected the monuments to innumerable dead. As John Tabb in his terse little poem so beautifully says:

> Their noonday never knows
> What names immortal are:
> 'Tis night alone that shows
> How star surpasses star.

I speak to-day in memoriam of the death of a Congressional neighbor and friend. I would be glad of the gift of the magi,

who are supposed to have the power to enchant with words that stand out like living presences, for then might I hope to do justice to the memory of ALFRED HARMER.

For those who were near him that mourn his loss there must be some consolation in the measure of recognition which his associates here, who mourn with them, accord to the noble virtues of his life. Among those virtues was an abiding faith in the integrity of mankind. He was a true patriot, a consistent believer in the superiority of our form of government and the greatness of our common country. This being true, we can not doubt his complete confidence in the Deity.

Death, which he so well understood to be the chief inheritance of man, must have come to him as a sweet benediction, for his was a well-spent life. With natures like his I am sure there can be no regrets. They would not stay. There is somewhere a poem which celebrates "the city of the living" and paints it as filled with pleasure and joy perpetual. Within its wide walls "never any die." Yet after a long run of years its inhabitants one by one stole away and climbed over the wall into the land of "the blessed boon of death." So at last it must come to us as a boon. How grateful it must have been and what a privilege to our friend after his long and honorable life! Optimistic, loving children as he loved all else that is beautiful, how sweet to his ears the whisper of the prattling child who, on being told of the beauties of God's home in heaven, replied, "Then death is only God's sleep."

And so the joys and sorrows of life are blended with the mysteries of death in close embrace. Lucretius, the ancient philosopher and poet, tells us that—

> Things seem to die, but die not; the spring showers
> Melt on the bosom of Mother Earth,
> But rise again in fruits and leaves and flowers,
> And every death is nothing but a birth.

Address of Mr. Chandler, of New Hampshire.

Mr. President: The Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. Penrose], on account of my pleasant acquaintance with Mr. Harmer, has asked me on this occasion to pay a tribute to his memory.

I am reminded of the members of the House of Representatives from Philadelphia whom I have known since I came to this city in 1864. Judge William D. Kelley, indeed, I had known before that time, when he came to New Hampshire in the spring canvasses in that State, and traveled over our hills and through our snowstorms in order to make political speeches in advocacy of the political faith that was in him.

Judge Kelley was probably the most remarkable of the Representatives from the city of Philadelphia whom I have known. A self-made man, because he possessed no early advantages, he came to be a political economist of the highest rank. He studied great questions, expounded them, became an orator in behalf of the American system of protection, and came to Congress for that long career which made him preeminently the Father of the House.

In 1864 I also met that genial gentleman, Charles O'Neill, and knew him intimately until the day of his death. Whole-souled, genial, and affectionate, he was one of the most agreeable acquaintances of my life. I mourned his loss with as much sincerity as I ever did that of any dear friend.

Leonard Myers was at the same time a Representative from Philadelphia. He is a lawyer of keenness and shrewdness, an eloquent speaker, and a most energetic advocate of every cause which he espouses. I am glad to state that he still

lives, in the full possession of his faculties and in the enjoyment of the best blessings which life can confer.

General H. H. Bingham I well know, and I highly esteem him—a man of energy, an incisive speaker, a persistent investigator—a Representative well worthy of the great city which he represents.

Next, the thought comes to every one of us of Samuel J. Randall. He became a great man, although he was not born to affluence. But he was intellectually strong. He had moral and physical courage unlimited, and an indomitable will, and he represented the great protection city of Philadelphia in Congress a long period. Although he differed so much from the great constituency which made the whole city, yet I think he was sent to the House with the general concurrence of all the broad-minded and influential citizens without distinction of party. I truly desire, having mentioned Mr. Randall, to speak of him in the highest terms as a citizen, as a Representative, and as a statesman. My relations with him, although we were of opposite politics, were very delightful and mutually helpful. He certainly had no more sincere and respectful mourner than I was.

Mr. President, to join the Philadelphia delegation in the House of Representatives in 1870 came Mr. ALFRED C. HARMER. I became acquainted with him immediately. I knew him during his whole career. There was between us tender and intimate friendship; we never had a word of difference during thirty years; and I surely have the right here and now to speak earnest words in his praise and to do all I can to pay due honor to his memory.

Mr. President, although it is true, as the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. Hansbrough] has said, that Mr. HARMER was not an orator, yet we know he was no ordinary man. No man

without great intellectual and moral qualities could hold the confidence of his constituents as he did for twenty-eight years (being left out of the House only two years by accident, as has been shown by the Senator from Pennsylvania). Men do not reach such distinction without extraordinary qualities, and if they do not possess the gift of eloquence, the traits which would give a man such high position must be in some respects stronger than those possessed by some of the noted orators of the House and Senate.

Mr. HARMER had no collegiate education. He was educated in the public schools of Germantown and in the Germantown Academy, and very early plunged into the active business of life. He became a merchant. He dealt in real estate. He engaged with Yankee shrewdness—I may say with Philadelphia shrewdness—in the business of money making, and was successful in acquiring a competency for himself and his family. His rare qualities called him into the service of his fellow-citizens, and he became early connected with the city government of Philadelphia. His local career in that city is one which I know does him no discredit in any single respect, and which, I am sure, reflects high honor upon his name.

Next he was elected to his higher duties in the Capitol of the nation. All who knew him there realize how industrious he was; how persistent he was. The Senator from North Dakota has told us how cautious he was in all his acts and conduct as a legislator; and he developed, Mr. President, the highest order of practical wisdom as a representative of the people of his city.

I think I ought to speak in the strongest language I can command in emphasizing the usefulness in Congress of such men as Mr. HARMER. It is not those of us who make long speeches who render the most effective service to our

constituents, but it is those of us who quietly and unostentatiously study the subjects of legislation and see to it that wise and beneficent laws are enacted, doing the duty not by oratory, but by practical common sense and persistent application of our power to the performance of the duties which we are called upon to fulfill.

Such was Mr. HARMER in public life, to my personal knowledge, and I also know that he was a good citizen. In his family relations he was a kind and generous and noble husband and father, genial and gentle and loving in all his domestic relations, and in his personal relations with those of us who knew him so well and who so deeply mourn the loss of a true and tender friend.

Mr. President, on an occasion like this inevitably our thoughts revert to the question of our immortality. We pause from the bustle of life to think of death and what comes after it, and we are not willing to believe that death is annihilation. It can not be that this world in all its grandeur, that this world with all the wonders which the telescope reveals, with all the wonders which the microscope discloses, is the end of all things to the men and women who live upon it. We have no knowledge. As the Senator from North Dakota has said, it is mainly hope; and yet we do believe as well as hope that after all the excitements of life have passed, and the powers of nature fail, there will be an existence beyond.

> There is a state unknown, unseen,
> Where parted souls must be;
> And but a step doth lie between
> That world of souls and me.

And yet, Mr. President, although the step is quick in time, I can not help thinking, as I have said before in this Chamber, that the final resting place or the final place of service to which we go is far off in distance, is away among the

stars of heaven. It can hardly be that we live as disembodied spirits waiting near this present earth of ours, which, compared with even the visible orbs, is but a speck in God's universe. If it were so it would be a sad condition, for we could not communicate with those whom we have loved and who remain here, and they could not communicate with us. So I like to think that the stars are our future abodes; that in the twinkling of an eye, with the rapidity of light, when we leave this temporary home we go on to our new and eternal existence in some of the great worlds around us which are kept in their ceaseless circuit by an Almighty hand.

Mr. President, I heard a few years ago a discourse in one of the churches of this city from the Rev. William Henry Furness, whom my friend the Senator from Pennsylvania well knew, the saintly Unitarian divine who wrote some of the noblest hymns in our language. He came here after he was so old and feeble that he could not stand in the pulpit, and sitting in his chair he talked to us sweetly and inspiringly of immortality, and urged us all to renew our faith in the future life; to cling to the belief that the glories of the hereafter are such that the joys of this present world are not to be compared with them. And after he had thus inculcated upon us faith in immortality, he said that while, of course, we could not know what we are to encounter when we go into the world of spirits, yet he would tell us what he sometimes thought we might reach in that future state. After several joyful imaginings he lastly said: "Considering all the trials and sorrows, bereavements and disappointments, which come to us as we grow old, I sometimes think that it will be a little easier for us in the next life than it has been in the present life."

Mr. President, possibly that is not the true and complete

idea, because we all of us, when we reason on the subject, must believe that the life to come is eventually to be a life of activity, a life of work, a life of service. Yet the most prevalent hope of the devout is that of a little rest before entering into new labors. The new life we wish to be a little easier; a little rest is what we long for, and with the blessing of God upon us we shall first renew our strength in a blissful and blessed repose.

> Rest comes at length, though life be long and dreary,
> The day must dawn, the darksome night be past;
> All journeys end in welcomes to the weary,
> And heaven, the heart's true home, will come at last.

Address of Mr. Money, of Mississippi.

Mr. President: It has been two decades and a lustrum since my acquaintance began with the subject of these eulogies. Alfred C. Harmer entered the Forty-second Congress, served in the Forty-third, again reentered—after leaving out the Forty-fourth—the Forty-fifth Congress, and continued as a member of Congress until the day of his death. I was a member of the Forty-fourth Congress, and then became acquainted with him as with all the other Philadelphia members who have been so feelingly and affectionately remembered by my friend from New Hampshire [Mr. Chandler]. That was a time of intense political excitement.

Mr. Harmer lost his seat, I think, in the Forty-fourth Congress, because in that year there was an upheaval in politics, a sort of cataclysm that hurled from power the Republican party and placed in the House of Representatives a Democratic majority and from the South men who truly represented it. The South had not up to that time been represented by its own sons, and in that political revolution I, with a great many others, came into Congress from the South.

It happened that the fury of the conflict, which always affords to great men their opportunities, brought to the front the strong men of the North and of the South, and they met in that Congress, which, in my opinion, was the greatest that has ever assembled in the House of Representatives, if perhaps we may exclude some three or four of the first Congresses which had in their membership the men who framed the Constitution of the United States.

I had it in my mind this morning to call over the names of the distinguished men who composed that grand assembly of

genius and of character. It is sad to note how many of them have passed to "that bourn whence no traveler e'er returns." Out of the 357 members now sitting in the House of Representatives only 2 of them were members of the Forty-fourth Congress—General Ketcham, of New York, and Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, both of whom have not been serving uninterrupted terms.

The array of genius, talent, and character that met in political conflict upon the floor of the House of Representatives was not only remarkable for its greatness, but remarkable for its controversies. This great Republic at that time was settling questions of the most momentous importance. Vital interests, far-reaching policies and principles, were to be determined. It seemed as though the sections—the East, North, West, and South—had sent their best men to the controversy.

I desire to read the names of a few of the men I have noted here, those who are recognized as men of national character and importance who were then the members of that august body and who have now passed away.

I recollect very well Michael C. Kerr, the first Speaker of the House of Representatives in that Congress, to be followed by that distinguished Pennsylvanian who has been so well eulogized by my friend from New Hampshire, Samuel J. Randall, the man with a lion heart and with a consummate tact for the management of men and the resolution not to be daunted by any opposition.

Among the members was the brilliant, the witty, the humorous, the belles-lettres scholar, Sunset Cox—S. S. Cox. Also Richard P. Bland, whose agitation of the silver question so long and with such ability won him a world-wide reputation.

Following him was David B. Culberson, probably the greatest lawyer the House has ever seen, or certainly one of its very

first, and from the beginning of his career to the close of it always a commanding power in the House.

Next was Charles J. Faulkner, an old man, distinguished before the civil war in the House of Representatives, and who had served as a minister to France, an accomplished diplomat, and an old-time Virginia gentleman.

Then E. John Ellis, called the "eloquent" Ellis, of Louisiana, who, with a mellifluous voice and beautiful rhetoric, so often entertained the fancy and won the plaudits of audiences in every section.

Following him was David Dudley Field, one of the greatest lawyers New York has ever known and, I believe, the author of the movement to codify the laws of the States.

Then came James A. Garfield, afterwards the President of this great Republic, a man of supreme intellectual power, of the most amiable personal character, a good companion, and a student of almost everything that came within his intellectual survey.

Following him was a man whose name was a name to conjure with—James G. Blaine, the brilliant American; a man with an intensely American foreign policy that he believed to be to the credit and to the glory of this country; a man who, I believe, at one time had a larger and a more affectionate personal following than any man who has ever figured in American politics, in my time at least.

Benjamin H. Hill, the lawyer, the orator, and the statesman, whose tremendous speeches had an effect in the House of Representatives in the Forty-fourth Congress that can be compared only to the discharges of heavy artillery upon a field of battle.

Frank H. Hurd, the distinguished lawyer and orator of Toledo, Ohio; a man recognized throughout the limits of this country as one of the very first legal minds in it, and when he

spoke in the House he had the ear of every man who was in the Chamber.

L. Q. C. Lamar, who graced a place in this Chamber, passed from it into a Cabinet office, and afterwards became one of the associate justices of the Supreme Court—Lamar, the man of genius, the man of philosophy, and the man of affairs, whose eloquence was of that character which required study and thought, with no spontaneity, but with a magnificence of diction and profundity of thought that always impressed itself powerfully upon his hearers.

Henry B. Payne, afterwards a member of this body, a man who was an influence in Ohio second to none, a man of the purest and loftiest character.

Alexander H. Stephens. the poor little cripple, whose life was lived in a rolling chair, but whose intellect, whose character every one bowed to in profoundest respect—a most affectionate, amiable, and gentle nature, and yet with a heart as resolute and as courageous as ever beat within the human breast.

J. Randolph Tucker, the profound lawyer, the sagacious statesman, the exquisite wit, the humorist. What a lovable companion! How delightful the memory he leaves to the circle of admirers he left behind him!

William A. Wheeler, called from the House of Representatives to sit in that chair and preside over the deliberations of the Senate as Vice-President of the United States by the votes of its people.

Casey Young, the great lawyer and orator from Tennessee, who only died last year, the friend of my heart; the man who was nearer to me, perhaps, than any other man; whose good traits were so numerous that they can hardly be enumerated in this place.

Jere Rusk, the big, stalwart man from the West, breezy, bold, frank, broad-minded in every respect; who afterwards became Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, and governor of his State.

Omar D. Conger, a man of biting wit, with a sarcasm that nobody could resist, who was transferred to this Chamber and distinguished himself here by his usefulness.

William D. Kelley, who has been alluded to by my friend from New Hampshire [Mr. Chandler]—a man whom I knew well and intimately. He was a disciple of Henry Carey, and he never omitted an opportunity anywhere to preach his doctrine with great force and effect—a man of genial nature, companionable in every respect, and one of the remarkable men of the Forty-fourth Congress.

The next name I have on this list, which stretches out so long, is George W. McCrary, of Iowa, who became Secretary of War—well poised, a lawyer, eminent in council and in debate; and in every way worthy of the honors which he received.

Fernando Wood, who was once the great mayor of New York, and who became a figure of influence and importance in the Forty-fourth and many succeeding Congresses—a man who, I believe, at one time during the civil war had the audacity to declare, as her mayor, the independence of the city of New York.

Alfred M. Scales, of North Carolina, a thorough gentleman, a fine lawyer, afterwards governor of North Carolina.

Then from that Congress there were men transferred to this Chamber who are now living—Joseph C. S. Blackburn, the Kentucky genius, who has his moments of inspiration, who has that peculiar manner, which Jefferson Davis had, of injecting into common conversation the most thrilling sentiments.

William P. Frye, the distinguished presiding officer of this Chamber, whom we all delight to honor—a man bold in his conflicts, ready in his retort, capable in every sense, enthusiastic, industrious, indefatigable, and resolute.

Eugene Hale, Senator from Maine, broad-minded, scholarly, capable, eloquent, able to take care of himself anywhere.

George F. Hoar, the erudite scholar, lawyer, and statesman, whose eloquence has been the delight of this Senate and who never speaks but to instruct the Senate.

Then I have the names of some other men here who have retired to private life to enjoy repose of declining years, who had figured as conspicuous characters in the Forty-fourth Congress.

J. Proctor Knott, the Kentucky humorist, who made the great Duluth speech and the speech on improvements in Washington, which will go down to the remotest ages of English-speaking posterity as the best specimens of American humor.

Roger Q. Mills, who lately departed from this Senate an honored member, capable of great work, forceful in language, and in every regard worthy of the respect of his constituents and of all men.

W. R. Morrison, the author of the Morrison bill, whose courage and fidelity to principle secured him a long service in the House of Representatives and the admiration of Democrats wherever one exists.

James Wilson, who was, perhaps, the best parliamentarian in the House, and who is the Secretary of Agriculture in this Administration—a man whose intelligent, careful, economical, and efficient management of that Department has marked a new era in its career and evidences a future usefulness for it that the people of this country, one-half of whom are agriculturists, fully appreciate.

John A. Kasson, who is known now, and was then, as one of the first men of the House, a logical speaker, a ready debater, an accomplished diplomat. His speech before the Electoral Commission in 1876 was one of the best. He has been since in the employ of our Government as a diplomat. He has shown the most consummate skill in his negotiation of reciprocity treaties.

Henry W. Blair, who came from the House of Representatives to the Senate and distinguished himself here by a long career of usefulness and by his advocacy of educating all of the population at the cost of the General Government.

Then there is Joseph G. Cannon, who has had long service there, interrupted only by one term, and has shown the greatest capacity for public business.

A. S. Hewitt, of New York, a millionaire, who succeeded in everything he undertook; a cool, sagacious, level-headed man, who rarely spoke, but always spoke with effect.

Adlai E. Stevenson, late Vice-President of the United States, and last year again the nominee of his party for that high office, who presided over the deliberations of this Senate, clear-headed, cool, amiable, judicial-minded, fair, an honor to his country, and, I believe, the favorite of Democrats everywhere, but I am sure, also, the friend of all with whom he served in the Senate on either side of the Chamber.

Gen. Eppa Hunton, now of this city, one of the gallant Confederate officers who distinguished himself during the civil war, a former member of that House, a member of the Electoral Commission, who afterwards came to this Chamber, where he continued the usefulness which distinguished him in the House.

The last one I have left on this list is John H. Reagan, afterwards a member of this body. He resigned his place here

to take the chairmanship of the railroad commission of the State of Texas. He is the last surviving member of the Confederate cabinet, the counselor of Jefferson Davis, honest, fearless, devoted to popular rights.

These are some of the members of that remarkable Congress, with too many of scarcely inferior rank.

In the Forty-fourth Congress, among this array of orators and speakers, I do not recollect that I ever heard Mr. HARMER make a speech. I did not know him intimately, but socially I knew him very well. He was a reticent man. He rarely spoke when anybody else wanted to do so, but he was always ready to answer intelligently any questions that were put to him. He was direct; he was amiable; he was trustworthy, and the best evidence of this is that for so long a time his constituency considered him worthy to represent them in the House.

He had great committee work to do, and he did it unostentatiously and well. He never paraded himself in politics or in society or anywhere else; but he was a successful man. He had a cool mind, a keen insight into business. He knew the trend of events. He invested his money wisely, and he tried almost everything—mines, railroads, real estate, manufacturing—and was successful in all of them; and after he entered public life he was still successful. In other words, he was a model American in many respects, a man of great dignity of character, of never-failing courtesy, of easy manners, charitable, and lovable.

He was an indulgent father. He was loved by his family. He performed all the duties that devolved upon him in his long career—that of being a good father, a good husband, a good neighbor, and a good citizen.

His religious convictions were not subject of talk, but they

were deep. I do not know to what church he belonged, nor whether he belonged to any; but he was one of those calm and practical-minded men who believe that our lives here fix the conditions of our souls hereafter; that there is a here and a hereafter; and if he was correct—and I believe he was—then in that future world, when the roll is called of all who were worthy of good report here below, he can answer, "I am here."

We know nothing but by authority of what is beyond. The philosophers from ages untold have attempted to demonstrate to us the future life, the immortality of the soul. Plato asserted it. Socrates proved it, Addison, the poet, believed in it and quoted Plato to justify his belief. There has not been a generation of mankind of any nation anywhere that has not acknowledged the existence of a God and believed in the immortality of the soul.

The Acadian religion, the religion of the Chaldeans, a religion which Abraham carried with him down from the city of Ur, and which his successors carried to Egypt—take their invocations, their hymns, their prayers, and you find that all are to the same Almighty God, the Father of all. All speak of the future life in invocations for Divine mercy and forgiveness of sin. The ancient Egyptian religion—a religion which left such magnificent fragments of its splendid temples to be reflected in the bosom of the Nile and to excite the wonder and admiration for five thousand years. Take that fertile strip barred by the rocky hills, and beyond the hills the tawny waste of desert sand, and in that valley, which was so long the seat of enterprise, of commerce, of literature, of architecture, of arts and sciences, and they, too, believed in the future life with an intensity of conception to which we are strangers. They would even have made the

body immortal, and in their tombs we find to-day a hymnal—the book of the dead—in which the soul was instructed in what it should say when it appears before those inflexible judges who shall pronounce the sentence and decide its fate—"Have you done this?" and "Have you done that?"—and the soul must answer truly to them.

Everywhere, even in the worship of the American Indians, and especially in the Peruvian mythology, you will find prayers and invocations, showing their belief not only in the eternity of the soul and of a future existence, but in a state of reward and punishment and of a Divine Being with power to condemn or to be merciful, the Giver of all good gifts. A preacher might take one of those prayers—the prayer to Pachumac, for instance—and deliver it next Sunday in any Christian pulpit, and no one of the congregation would know but that it was a beautiful creation from the brain of the Christian pastor.

In all ages men have believed in the immortality of the soul. Later we find scientists arguing upon purely scientific bases, and by scientific processes, without quoting any authority whatever, although they are Christian believers, have demonstrated to a scientific conclusion that the soul shall forever live.

We walk through that door into another chamber, and from that to another, and no man knows whither we go. So we pass down to the narrow portals of the tomb, and we disappear from the gaze of the world. Our friends are heartstricken with grief for a little while, but soon we are forgotten, we are a mere memory, and after a while a tradition; but the busy world with its thronging multitudes moves on, absorbed in its politics, its commerce, its business.

When the soul has gone beyond the portals of the tomb,

when it has shaken off the flesh and its impedimenta here, then in the eternal hereafter we may know that all of that which we call "the past," "the dark backward and abysm of time," that flitting, flitting moment which we call "the present," and that coming which we call "the future" are all merged in one "now," and there is no past, present, or future, but all is now. There is no place, but all is "here," and above all is the goodness of the Creator, the Father of all.

Father of all, in every age,
In every clime adored
By saint, by savage, or by sage—
Jehovah, Jove, or Lord.

Mourning for departed relatives or friends is simply an animal instinct, the pain of breaking the tender tendrils about the heart. It is the pang of separation that gives death its terror; nothing else. Who fears to meet the future? Is there any man afraid? If so, then let him change his course. How men rush to the cannon's mouth, how they risk perils on sea and land, and how little they think of death! What small terror it has for any man, whatever his belief may be as to the future!

And, after all, Mr. President, every heart must feel that sooner or later we must go to face the realities of which we have all thought and dreamed, and solve the great mystery of life and the still greater mystery of death. It has been said that—

It is not all of life to live,
Nor all of death to die.

That means that there is something in this life that is projected into the life beyond; that the soul can not cast aside everything which it now has, but carries with it into the future existence something of the "now," something of the "here." We are told that the subjective mind, which controls the automatic functions of the body, and which takes

care of us when we are asleep and when we are unconscious of the effort to breathe or to pulsate our hearts—that subjective mind is the part that will live hereafter. We are told that of the different nerve centers that one is the physiological base of the soul.

Every nation has its belief upon these points, but all agree upon one great fact—that there is a hereafter, and that in that hereafter the soul must take its stand as it ordained for itself in this world. There is no interference; there is no help. Of course the mind must yield to heredity and environment, but, after all, it is responsible for its own efforts.

In view of these facts, when I consider our departed friend, when I think of his kindly good nature, of his amiability, of his charity, of his self-respect, of his gentle bearing, of his sense of right, of honor, and of justice, of his fair dealing with his fellow-men, I think he has exercised at least the religion of humanity, and like Abou Ben Adhem, when he awoke from his dream of peace and asked the angel if his name was written in the Book of Life. "Not so," the angel said. "Then," said Ben Adhem—

> Write me as one who loves his fellow-men.

The angel smiled and showed him the book—

> And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

Address of Mr. Hawley, of Connecticut.

Mr. President: I merely wish to add my brief testimonial to what has already been said regarding the life and character of the late Representative from Pennsylvania, Alfred C. Harmer.

I concur in every word of excellent praise which has been uttered in the delineation of our friend's services and every loving tribute that has been paid to his memory. I entered Congress through the House of Representatives in December, 1872. I found there Mr. Harmer, and soon made his acquaintance. Circumstances connected me with the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia, and I found Mr. Harmer one of the most generous, energetic, and kindly supporters of that great enterprise. Indeed, for that matter, nobody in Philadelphia—that noble city, the birthplace and home of the Declaration of Independence, which made her famous all over the world—was anything else.

The remarkable list of offices which Mr. Harmer held shows that he was not only respected, but that he must also have been loved.

He was broad-shouldered physically, mentally, and morally. He did not profess to be brilliant. It was not needed that he should profess to be an honest and just man, a man of integrity and true generosity. That was evident to all who knew him.

I do not know that I care to expand longer upon the peculiarities of Mr. Harmer. In one sense he was not a man of peculiarities. He resembled in some respects men of the general class of George Washington—men of great, broad common sense, who did not profess to be showy, who were not showy,

and did not attempt to impress the world by their language or their manner.

Mr. HARMER was at the same time a man of patriotism as warm as that of Abraham Lincoln. He went through life discharging every duty and leaving behind him a memory that must be most grateful to his family and to all his friends. Certainly those of us who have been in Congress for twenty-five years or twenty-six years will remember him with very great respect and pleasure.

Address of Mr. Carter, of Montana.

Mr. President: Alfred C. Harmer entered the House of Representatives shortly after the close of the great civil war. He entered the Chamber of the other House when James G. Blaine was Speaker. Many of the distinguished men named by the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. Money] were members of that House of that Congress, and of the Congresses succeeding for a dozen years. There had been upon the roll of membership men of conspicuous ability, men whose services the country can never forget, and whose names can not be omitted from any well-written history of their time.

The period following 1870 was a trying period for this country. The civil war had left the country in a distracted condition. The painful process of reconstructing the States which had been engaged in rebellion was then in progress; the currency of the country was inflated; the industrial life of the country in a demoralized condition. There was some doubt being expressed among the wise men of Europe as to whether our country could completely recover from the terrible shock of war. Passions ran high; violent expressions were frequently heard in both Chambers of Congress; men at times ceased to reason and elected to rage; motives were questioned on all sides.

In the midst of conditions like this, Mr. Harmer entered Congress from the State of Pennsylvania. He was a quiet and a discreet man. Through the influence exerted by such men as Mr. Harmer, rather than through the lofty and frequently impassioned declamation of men who shone more brilliantly, good results were evolved from unpromising conditions.

He lived to see the country increase from thirty-eight and

one-half millions population in 1870 to a population of seventy-six and one-half millions in 1900. The country's population had doubled during the period of his service in Congress. He had witnessed the complete conquest of the continent from one ocean to the other. Subjected frequently to stormy and harsh criticism, he had sustained, as he thought was wise and well, the various measures under which the country's deliverance came from the unhappy conditions surrounding it at the time of his entrance upon his Congressional career. He lived to see the country, at that time disunited in sentiment, completely reunited in sentiment. He lived to see the men who wore the blue and the men who wore the gray stand shoulder to shoulder and side by side against the common enemy, fighting together in defending the common flag of the common country.

He happily lived to see those who questioned in 1870 the possibility of the complete reuniting of all sections of the country concede in 1900 that the Union was complete; and in so conceding uniting with all their brethren in its defense.

The discreet men, I think, have done more to advance the cause of good government than the brilliant men of the world. The world's workers, those who actually accomplish results, are little known in history. We have all perceived in public life the potent influence of the quiet, silent, persistent, industrious man. I would not disparage, nor would I belittle the gift of oratory or fluency of speech, but would somewhat detract from the magnifying of those gifts so often possessed to a superlative degree; and in gazing upon the brilliant and showy side of mankind the meritorious and effective body of men are frequently overlooked.

Alfred C. Harmer was a member of the Fifty-first Congress. He had been a member of several Congresses preceding that. I entered the Fifty-first Congress as a member from a

new State in the autumn of 1889. My acquaintance with Mr. HARMER during my Congressional experience in the House ripened into a most agreeable, pleasant, and friendly relationship. The quiet, forceful manner and capacity for bringing about net results, without unusual or unnecessary disturbance, would quickly impress anybody who became acquainted with the man or his methods. Pure in thought, lofty in purpose, always patriotic, he gave forth an influence alike beneficial to his constituents and to his associates in the House of Representatives.

Immortality, the Senator from Mississippi well suggests, is consciously or unconsciously conceded the wide world over wherever intelligent beings exist. But there is another kind of an immortality than that which attaches to the soul—that immortality which is inseparable from the influence of good deeds. As a pebble cast into the midst of the sea will send a wave to every shore, so a good life well spent will give rise to an influence destined to affect the world in greater or less degree to the remotest period of recorded time.

In this sense, sir, ALFRED C. HARMER has achieved immortality amongst men. His life was blameless, his service to his country faithful, and when that life closed there was naught deeply to regret. He had lived full three-quarters of a century, and had contributed in honorable, manly, and noble fashion to the full measure of his ability to the betterment of his kind and the glory of his country.

The resolutions having been previously adopted, the Senate (at 6 o'clock and 3 minutes p. m.) adjourned until Monday, February 11, 1901, at 11 o'clock a. m.

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